

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT  
REGULAR WORK SESSION  
MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2019  
6:00P.M.**

**1. OPENING**

**1.1.1 Call to Order**

Council President Yeargin called the meeting to order at 6:15p.m.

**1.1.2 Roll Call**

Present: Mayor Eugene Grant, Councilmember Charl Jones, Councilmember Hope Love, Councilmember Lamar Maxwell, Councilmember Shireka McCarthy, Councilmember Kelly Porter, Councilmember Gloria Sistrunk, Councilmember Reveral Yeargin

Staff: Robert Ashton, Financial Advisor, C.Reginald Bagley, Acting Director of Economic Development, Monay Henry, Administrative Assistant, Marcus Jones, Assistant to the Chief, Dashaun N. Lanham, City Clerk, Sharron Lipford, Director of Public Engagement, Devan Martin, Chief of Police, Diamond Plater, Council Clerk, Jazmin Shorts, Administrative Assistant, Chantell Tyler, Accounting Assistant, Jeannelle B. Wallace, Chief Operating Officer, Adeoye Aganga-Williams, Chief Financial Officer

**1.1.3 Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:**

The invocation was given by Council President Yeargin

**1.1.4. Approval of Agenda**

It was motioned by Councilmember Maxwell and seconded by Councilmember Jones to approve the agenda. The motion carried and was approved by the Council.

**2. PRESENTATIONS:**

**2.1. FY2019-2020 Budget**

- Mayor Grant stated that the Budget Facts for the Propose FY2019-2020 Budget is \$12, 088, 063, which is a decrease from last year. The budget consists of fifty-three (53) offers. We submitted the budget on-time as required by the City Charter, but there will be some modifications.

- The budget changes are as follows: The Chief Operating Officer has secured \$55,000 of liens with a 68% percent increase from last year. The Police Department budget has an increase of five (5) police officers to offer 24-hour policing. The Mayor's Department has implemented the Mayor's Moment Podcast. The Public Engagement Department launched the CGS, the new My Seat Pleasant App. The Economic Development Department has sold three properties with three properties being under contract, the construction will begin with the USDA Project within the next 40 days.
- The Human Resources Department implemented the Advance ADP System.
- Mayor Grant stated that we did not get any unreasonable request from the Executives with the budget process. We are staying consistent with the seven Strategic Outcomes We are hoping that we can update the Strategic Plan this year. We have a lot of data and the University of Oklahoma need five-years of data.
- The Chief of Police stated that we stated that the Police Department can only use the last two years of data, as the predecessor misrepresented the data in 2016.
- Mayor Grant stated the Finance Department has about two years of data due to the implementation of the NetSuite and the Public Engagement Department has only two years of data, as the department did not exist. The Public Engagement Department was able to assist two hundred residents with assistance to social services needs with the Engagement and Outreach Coordinator, the Public Work Department did not have any records, the City Clerk has eleven years of data.
- Mayor Grant stated that the taxes had not been increased since 2005. We will be implementing the tax saving measure for residence that resided in the city for over forty years included in the budget. The Public Engagement Department held a financial workshop and will be having more. The MySeatPleasant App has a health feature on the app. We are tweaking our systems for improvement.
- Councilmember Jones asked what it will take for the City of Seat Pleasant to have their own zip code to eliminate the homes being assigned as Capitol Heights?
- Mayor Grant stated that it is about numbers and they require 38,000 residents. Mayor Grant stated that we have an annexation strategy and the City is looking to annex the Woods at Addison. They had an annexation committee and the committee was disbanded after the Mr. Tripplin met with the Town of Capitol Heights, and they felt they lacked vision and continuity. Mayor Grant stated that we cannot meet with two residents in a community

and assume they will be annexed into Seat Pleasant. We had several people in the Pepper Mill Community that will not support annexation into Seat Pleasant. We have a strategic that we will review and make some changes and we will bring it to the council. Councilmember Jones stated that our one-day trash pick-up is a selling tool. Mayor Grant stated that Maryland Park has too many code issues. The biggest cost for the other area is policing and we can have some cameras installed in the area.

Councilmember Yeargin inquired if there will be any incentives to the family if they transfer the property within the family, they will obtain the tax incentive. However, if the property is sold, they will need to pay taxes. Councilmember McCarthy wanted to know when can the Council expect their hard copy of the budget? She does realize that some changes are still being made.

Councilmember Maxwell wanted to know if the County decided to raise the tax, how will that impact the city? Mayor Grant stated that we will need to work with the state and work with the County Council and senator to support the request.

### **3. REPORTS:**

#### **3.1. Mayor's Report**

- Mayor Grant stated that the City of Seat Pleasant has been invited to present at several conferences and the invitees are paying for use to come. We are gaining recognition both nationally and internationally.
- Mayor Grant stated that we are one team we cannot do it by ourselves. We are fortunate enough to operate as one team. As we continue to move forward and keep those things in mind you will be continually surprised.
- Mayor Grant thanked Councilmember McCarthy for working with Ms. Rhoda in writing the grant for the 2020 Census. The City was awarded \$18,000 for the 2020 Census.
- Mayor Grant thanked SPICE as the City will be getting a grocery store and the city will not be financing any money. They are receiving money from the Revenue Authority, Industrial Bank and Good Food Market will be investing money to for them to come to the city. The press conference was held today, Monday, April 1, 2019 and Councilmember McCarthy represented the City Council and Mrs. Wallace was in attendance.
- Mayor Grant stated that we will have some modification to the office on Thursday, April 4, 2019, staff will be let off early, as the First Lady of Congo will be visiting the City. The Security Service will be coming in to

check the office. The First Lady will be here on Friday, April 5, 2019 to learn about Smart Cities.

### **3.2. Chief Operating Officer**

- Mrs. Wallace stated that as the Mayor stated we had been working on the budget and the staff worked on the monetary resources to operate the department. Mrs. Wallace stated that we will be requesting additional liens in the coming budget. The one significant thing is our decision is based upon data.
- Councilmember Maxwell inquired on the expansion of the Police Department.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that the department has grown, and some staffers are being doubled and tripled up in one office.
- Mayor Grant stated that we are still correcting problems from the previous administration with the initial building.
- Mayor Grant stated that we did not experience any problems with the permit for up the street and the temporary site here. Mayor Grant stated that they are correcting a lot of the errors from before. Chief stated that we are in 1.5 Million of cost investing in the police department. We believe that going with the building from Atlanta was not in the best interest of the city. When someone pull up to the station and the call box is on the passenger side of the vehicle and the parking pad was not completed. The call box correction will be \$125,000 and the motor could not support the weight of the gate. We had to replace the motor on the gate at the cost of \$23,000. Marcus Jones stated that there are quite a few issues, electrical lines at \$11,000, paneling, restroom pipes were not installed correctly, due to the shabby electrical work the police department had lost power.
- Councilmember Yeargin had inquired if the Legal Counsel had been contacted regarding the issues? Mr. Jones stated that we cannot pursue anyone due to the city signing off on the work.
- Mayor Grant stated that before he had become Mayor and all the money that was spent on the Feggans Center. The City had spent about one million dollars on the roof that was never fixed. Mayor Grant stated that we need a project manager for each project and Former Councilmember Simms testified to the fact.
- Mr. Jones stated that Mr. Wilkins, Construction Project Manager has found all the flaws and keep the contractors in check. They meet once a week and he will review each contract and reject them if the rate is too high. We need professionals that are certified to give directions.

- Mr. Jones stated that the Town of Capitol Heights hired some of the same vendors that worked on the city police department modular building and they have spent \$600,000 and they do not have a building.

### **3.3. City Council Committee Reports**

- The Council Committee did not have any reports for April.

## **4. LEGISLATION**

**4.1. Ordinance O-19-09 Small Cell Facilities 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading.** Ordinance O-19-09 was introduced by the City Council and read by the City Clerk on Monday, March 11, 2019 and the second reading held on Monday, April 1, 2019. It was motioned by Councilmember Jones and seconded by Councilmember Sistrunk to approve Ordinance O-19-09. The motion carried and Ordinance O-19-09 was unanimously approved by the City Council.

**4.2. Ordinance O-19-10 Amendment of Chapter 137-Streets and Sidewalk.** Ordinance O-19-10 was introduced by the City Council on Monday, March 11, 2019 and read by the City Clerk. and the second reading held on Monday, April 1, 2019. It was motioned by Councilmember Maxwell and seconded by Councilmember Porter to approve Ordinance O-19-10. The motion carried and Ordinance O-19-10 was unanimously approved by the City Council.

**4.3 Ordinance O-19-11 Amendment of Chapter 150-Vehicles and Traffic.** Ordinance O-19-11 was introduced by the City Council and read by the City Clerk on Monday, April 1, 2019.

## **5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**5.1. None**

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

**6.1. None**

## **7 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**7.1. PGCMA Wine and Cheese, Friday, April 5, 2019, Seat Pleasant Goodwin Park, 311 68th Pl., Seat Pleasant, MD 20743 at 7:00pm-9:00pm**

**7.2 Ward II Prayer Breakfast, Saturday, April 6, 2019, Seat Pleasant Activity Center, 5720 Addison Rd., Seat Pleasant, MD at 10:00am-12:30pm**

Councilmember Love stated that Councilmember Maxwell will be singing at the event.



**7.3 FY2019-2020 Budget Hearing, Monday, April 8, 2019, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers, 311 68th Pl., Seat Pleasant, MD at 6:00p.m.**

**7.4 Constant Yield Hearing, Monday, April 8, 2019, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers, 311 68th Pl., Seat Pleasant, MD at 6:30p.m.**

**7.5 Public Session, Monday, April 8, 2019, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers, 311 68th Pl., Seat Pleasant, MD at 7:00p.m.**

**7.6 FY2019-2020 Budget Review, Saturday, April 13, 2019, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers, 311 68th Pl., Seat Pleasant, MD at 12:00pm.-5:00p.m.**

**7.7 FY2019-2020 Budget Hearing, Saturday, April 13, 2019, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers, 311 68th Pl., Seat Pleasant, MD at 10:00am-11:30am**

**7.8 Ward V Monthly Meeting, Monday, April 15, 2019, Seat Pleasant Activity Center, 5720 Addison Rd., Seat Pleasant, MD from 9:30a.m.-11:30a.m.**

**Councilmember Sistrunk stated that the meeting will be a safety forum meeting as a collaboration with the Seat Pleasant Police Department and CPAC.**

**7.9 Minority Business Day, Thursday, April 18, 2019, Seat Pleasant Activity Center, 5720 Addison Rd., Seat Pleasant, MD from 10:00am-2:00pm**

**7.10 Ward I Appreciation Day, Saturday, April 20, 2019, Mount Victory Baptist Church, 6020 Addison Rd., Seat Pleasant, MD from 12:00p.m.-5:00p.m.**

**Councilmember Maxwell stated that Ward I Appreciation Day will be invite all residents and staff to meet and greet with the residents. The Keep in Touch group will be singing at the event.**


**7.11 Annual Seat Pleasant Day, Saturday, May 4, 2019, Parade from Goodwin Park at 11:00a.m., Activities at Seat Pleasant Elementary School from 12:00p.m.-6:00p.m.**

**7.12 Regular Work Session, Monday, May 6, 2019, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers, 311 68th Pl., Seat Pleasant, MD at 6:00p.m.**

**7.13 Public Session, Monday, May 13, 2019, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers, 311 68th Pl., Seat Pleasant, MD 20743 at 7:00p.m.**

**ADJOURN-The meeting was adjourned at 8:06p.m.**

**Submitted by,**

  
Dashaun N. Lanham, CMC  
City Clerk

APPROVED 0-31